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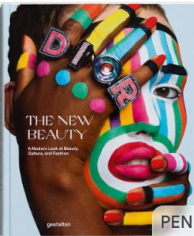


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Explore South America At Its Best With These Dazzling Relais & Châteaux Properties

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Jared Ranahan is a reporter who covers travel and ecotourism.

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Aug 28, 2023, 01:25pm EDT

Updated Aug 29, 2023, 05:34pm EDT



Mainland South America is home to 12 countries and one internal territory. TXAI RESORT ITACARÉ

Spanning from the tangled depths of the Darién Gap to the frigid reaches of southern Patagonia, South America offers a spectacular array of stunning natural landscapes to explore—and as an added bonus, the continent is no stranger to luxury accommodations either. While polished resorts can be found from northern Colombia to the southern tip of Argentina, South America’s resident Relais & Châteaux properties offer a glimpse into the rich culinary culture of each destination, with no shortage of incredible outdoor adventure and wellness experiences to explore along the way.

As you plan your next vacation, be sure to save some room on the itinerary to visit these dazzling properties, each one showcasing the abundant beauty of South America at its most opulent.

For Wildlife Lovers: Txai Resort Itacaré








Bahia is home to large swathes of Brazil’s Atlantic Rainforest, a natural feature that stretches ... [+] TXAI RESORT ITACARÉ

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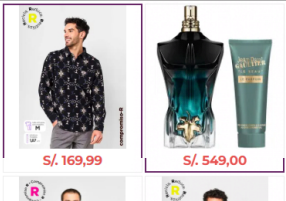
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The abundant beauty of coastal Brazil is on full display at [Txai Resort Itacaré](#), a stunning property located on the scenic shores of Bahia. Equipped with 100 hectares of pristine Atlantic rainforest to explore, guests can spend their visit strolling through one of the resort’s many beach trails in search of native monkeys and dazzling birds, while the tangled mangrove forests and sandy beaches of Camamu Bay are just a speedboat ride away. Lucky visitors may even be able to catch a glimpse of a sea turtle, with large populations of the reptiles thriving in the surrounding area thanks to the resort’s partnership with [Projeto TAMAR](#), a Brazilian initiative that’s dedicated to sea turtle conservation.

In addition to serving as a top-tier ecotourism destination, Txai Resort Itacaré doubles as a paradise for rest and relaxation. For a particularly soothing experience, visitors are welcome to visit the on-property Shamash Healing Space for an afternoon treatment, with options ranging from hydrating body wraps to Tui na massage to individual yoga classes. And just a few steps away from the spa, Orixás is a top destination for discovering the rich culinary heritage of Bahia, with no shortage of flavorful seafood dishes up for grabs.

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For Cultural Immersion: Titilaka



Lake Titicaca is home to the Titicaca water frog, an endangered amphibian that's closely related to ... [+]
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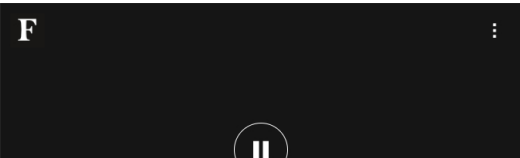
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Located on the Peru-Bolivia border, the sprawling Lake Titicaca serves as one of South America’s most intriguing water features, renowned across the globe for its large size and high altitude—and [Titilaka](#) serves as the perfect base for a deep dive into the rich history of the lake. During a stay, guests are welcome to book an excursion to explore Lake Titicaca’s many artificial islands, with each one offering insight into the architectural expertise and weaving skills of the region’s Uro-Aymara communities, then head to nearby Taquile to bask in the beauty of the island’s traditional textile art.



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After gaining some insight into the lives of Lake Titicaca's local residents, guests can also come face-to-face with some of the region's fascinating flora and fauna. For early risers, a birdwatching expedition is perfect for showcasing the incredible avifauna that calls the area home, with yellow-winged blackbirds, greater yellowlegs, and Titicaca grebes serving as just a few local residents, while afternoon rafting sessions are also available for guests, serving as the perfect opportunity for learning about the crucial role that the totora reed plays in both the surrounding ecosystem and in local cultural practices.

For Gastronomes: Cavas Wine Lodge



The rufous hornero is the national bird of Argentina. CAVAS WINE LODGE

Argentina has earned abundant acclaim for its world-class winemaking scene, and for those wishing to gain some insight into the craft, few properties can compare to [Cavas Wine Lodge](#). While the property's location offers quick access to some of Mendoza's most acclaimed wineries, visitors don't have to stray far from the complex itself to find incredible dining opportunities, with the on-site restaurant offering a wealth of masterfully-crafted dishes containing fresh produce from the garden.

In between meals, there's a massive array of outdoor adventure activities available for booking. For a particularly thrilling experience, visitors can plan a full day spent rafting across Class II rapids followed by a rappel in the surrounding mountains, while more leisurely activities range from horseback rides through the local vineyards to a road trip to Valle de Uco to search for the region's native condors. And of course, no visit is complete without setting up a treatment at the Cavas Wine Lodge spa, a grandiose space that offers hot stone massages, facials, and a wealth of other treatments.

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Jared Ranahan

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